



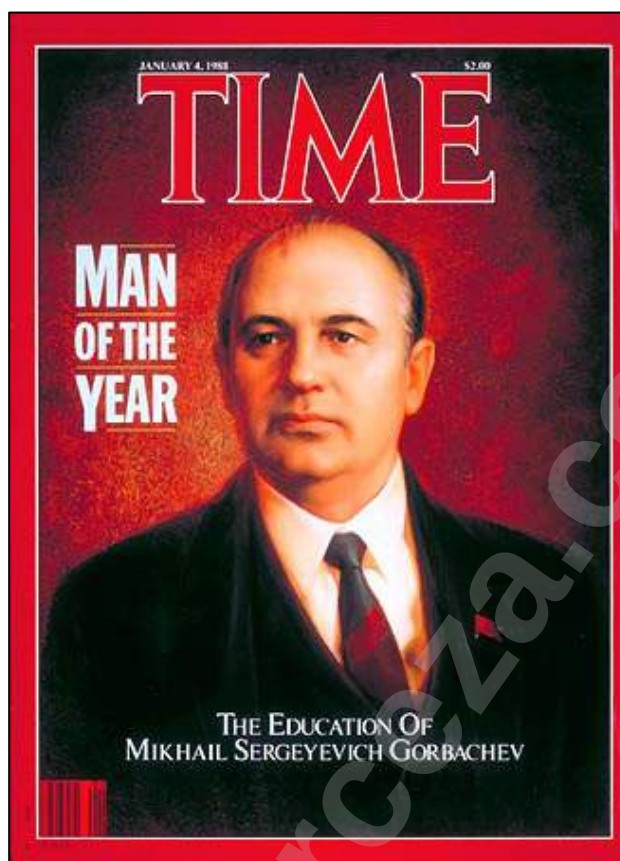
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NATIONAL SENIOR CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
NOVEMBER 2010

HISTORY: PAPER I

SOURCE MATERIAL FOR SECTION B AND SECTION C

SOURCE A**Time Magazine, 4 January 1988**[From: <www.achievement.org>]**SOURCE B****A historian's comment on the war in Afghanistan**

The Mujaheddin (Afghan rebels) attacked Soviet supply routes and shot at Soviet planes. The Soviets suffered increasing casualties, but succeeded only in propping up the unpopular communist government in Kabul. Although there were 125 000 Soviet troops in Afghanistan by the early 1980s, they found it impossible to defeat the Afghan rebels.

By 1989 the Soviet Union had lost about 20 000 soldiers in the war against the Mujaheddin. The war also caused great damage to the Soviet economy, costing several billion dollars a year.

[From Ferriby, D, et al, *Modern World History*, Heinemann, 2001]**SOURCE C****A Soviet joke circulating in 1989 in the Soviet Union**

A Moscow woman had queued for three hours for meat. In all that time the queue had not moved.

"That's it!" she said. "I've had enough of this; I'm going to assassinate President Gorbachev."

With this she stormed off, only to return an hour later.

"What happened?" asked her friends, "did you assassinate the President?"

"I didn't have time," she replied, "the queue was too long."

[From Harbon, B. *The Breakdown of the Soviet Union*, Wayland, 1992]

SOURCE D

An extract from a letter to Mikhail Gorbachev by Roman von Kalckreuth, Berlin, West Germany, 14 February 1990

Dear Mr Gorbachev

... I have been deeply moved by the events that have taken place in this country since 9 November 1989 ...

Dear Mr Gorbachev, I would like to express my deeply felt thanks for this, for, in the final analysis, it was you, with your policy of *perestroika* who set the heavy stone of politics in motion. You have no idea how many people in Germany revere you and consider you to be one of the greatest politicians of the present age. On that day when the people of East Berlin and of East Germany were able to come to us freely, thousands of people shouted out your name, 'Gorbi, Gorbi, Gorbi ...'

The people fell into each other's arms and wept for joy, because at last they were free after forty-five years of suppression and authoritarian rule under a communist-Stalinist system. This dreadful wall and border, which was now being opened up and carried away stone by stone, cost many people their lives, and was a source of bitter suffering for many families.

[From Walsh, B, *GCSE Modern World History*, Hodder, 2001]

SOURCE E

An excerpt from a letter to the editor of the New York Times. The writer of the letter, Franklin Holzman, is a professor of economics at Tufts University. He is also a fellow at Harvard's Russian Research Centre.

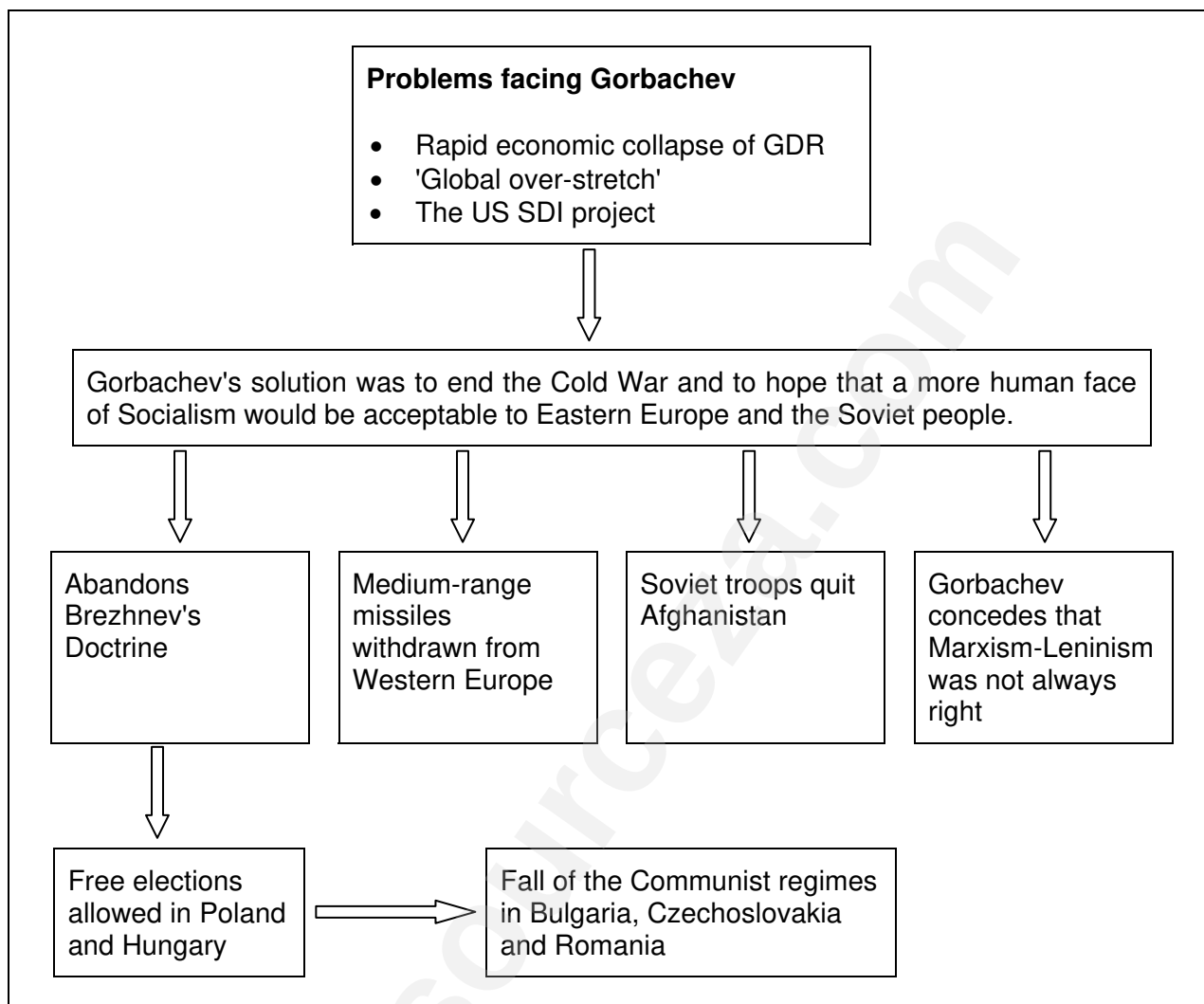
Inefficient Soviet Economy Halted Cold War

... the real causes of the continuously declining growth rate of the Soviet Union, of the poor quality of its products and of its many other deficiencies are to be found in central planning by direct controls. The Soviet economy was an economy run by bureaucrats without information provided by real market prices, without the incentives to be efficient enforced by market competition and without much incentive to develop and introduce new technology.

Recognition that Soviet planning was a failed system led Mikhail S. Gorbachev to introduce *perestroika*; along the road he also introduced *glasnost* and democratisation, and by refusing to obstruct similar revolutions in Eastern Europe, effectively dissolved the Soviet bloc. These ended the Cold War and earned Mr Gorbachev the Nobel Peace Prize.

Franklyn D. Holzman Bedford, Mass, 9 November 1992

[From the *New York Times*, 22 November 1992]

SOURCE F**Summary of the end of the Cold War in Europe**

[From Williamson, D, *Europe and the Cold War 1945 – 91*, Hodder, 2001]

SOURCE G

**An extract from an article in an English newspaper on
15 December 1991, shortly before Mikhail Gorbachev's resignation**

'My life's work has been accomplished,' Mr Gorbachev said last Thursday. Not quite. He did not set out to abolish the Soviet Union, nor the Communist Party. These events happened in spite of his resistance and because, in the long run, the entire Soviet system was heading for disaster. Mr Gorbachev's career is proof not of the impact that one man can make on history, but of how powerful historical forces sweep aside the efforts of one man to resist them.

[From Kelly, N, et al, *Modern World History*, Heinemann, 2001]